

*K Pitt (W) Lord & (Latter)*

THE  
T R I A L  
OF  
ENGLAND'S CICERO,  
ON THE  
Four Important Articles,  
OF HIS BEING  
AN ORATOR, a PATRIOT, an AU-  
THOR, and a BRITON.

---

*O fortunatam natam me Consule Romam.*

CICERO.

---

L O N D O N :

Printed for the AUTHOR: And sold by J. WILLIAMS,  
next Door to the Mitre Tavern, Fleet-street, 1767,

[Price One Shilling.]

Four important Articles

OT HIS FIFTY

AN ORATOR, A PATRIOT, AN AV-  
THOR, AND A BRITON.



© Reproduktion ist ohne Genehmigung des Verlags verboten.

43319

М. Д. О. К. Д. Б. М.

Printed for the Author, And sold by J. WILKINS,  
next Door to the Nine Pavement Street, 1757.

Price One Shilling.

**A PREVIOUS  
ADDRESS**

**TO THE  
PUBLIC.**

**W**HEN a people have been hurried out of the sober use of their reason, by the din of party, joined to factious clamour, and have let their eyes be dazzled by the false glare of artificial virtue; during such a torrent's rage, all attempts to oppose a national phrenzy, or candid endeavours to convert the so infatuated from their idola-



trous worship, would prove impotent and fruitless. But when such a general fascination begins to decline, (as is the case now in England) then is the proper season to hasten the salutary work of an universal reformation in those tainted minds, that are yet labouring under an erroneous influence.

For the reasons why the personage (whose merits, as well as demerits, are to be scrutinized in the following trial) is designed by the title of *England's Cicero*, our readers are to ask his friends, who have so long delighted in giving him that characteristic denomination.

To the many reasons which these gentlemen and partizans have assigned for so flatteringly nominal an application to the object they admire, it is thought proper, that some other now be added, which may have escaped the ken of their united capacities; and are here previously addressed to the public for its impartial sentiments thereon.

1st, The *Chat-em*, (for in *chatting* lay his *fort*) or popular oration-man of ancient Rome, as well as the modern *Cicero*, or rather the oratorial humbugger of England, were both excessively vain; and so far over-rated the faculties which nature had given them, as, with *unembarrassed countenances*, to declare, that each thought himself the only person qualified for the sole guidance of public



public affairs, and arbitrarily steering the helm of government.

2dly, Each exulted to answer all opponents in the senate-house with abusive intrepidity; because, from that very circumstance, sure of being sheltered from any dangerous consequences; which encouraged them to a farther parade of bravery.

3dly, They both were ever ready to veer about from their first declared principles, to embrace any other tenets, however diametrically opposite, so that they promised to favour their unbounded views.

4thly, The *Chat-em* of old Rome turned his back upon liberty and the commonwealth, to pay mean court, and go over to *Octavius Cæsar*, the then minion of fortune. England's *Cicero* having renounced all formerly avowed principles, struck his pliant flag of mercenary ambition to favouritism, in the person of an aspiring Stuart.

5thly, *Octavius Cæsar* not only disliked, but inwardly despised his trope-lavish proselyte, well knowing his interested motives of defection from the adverse party; and finally, gave him up on the proscription list, to receive his just reward, for such unpatriotic, base, and unmanly tergiversation. The northern thane does not much admire his *nouveau converti*, but politically makes a pro-

a proper use of him; and by ultimately leaving the recreant to disentangle himself as well as he can from unpracticable schemes, to grasp at departing popularity, will soon enjoy in him the butt of national contempt, and a just victim of over-weening vanity.

gotta consequences, which  
them as a farthing of  
They both were ever ready to vote  
about from their first declared principles  
to embrace any other tenet, however dis-  
mentally opposite, to that they promised  
to favour their unbounded views.  
then, The Cause of old Rome turned  
his back upon liberty and the common-  
wealth, to pay mean court, and go over to  
Oswald's Cause, the then minion of fortune.  
England's Cause having renounced all for-  
merly avowed principles, struck his plant  
flag of mercenary ambition to favour him  
in the person of an aspiring Stuart.  
Oswald's Cause not only disliked,  
but unwarily despised his treacherous pro-  
posals, well knowing his interested motives  
of detection from the adverse party; and  
finally gave him up on the pro-terration  
to receive his reward, for such an  
patriotic duty, and unmanly resignation.  
The northern land doctor made some  
his name known, but positively makes  
a pro-

---

# AN INTERESTING ADMONITION

TO ALL

Profest CRITICS in Literature.

**S**IMPLE firs, plain gentlemen, or complimentary esquires, according as your employers are generously pleased to class ye, however niggard they may prove in the article of payment---Heaven protect, and providence take care of ye all, in this general dearth of provisions. What a *hopeful* number, in and about this metropolis, journey-working for reviews, magazines, morning, evening, weekly, and other periodical publications ! This then our admonition, authoritative body, imports, that proper care has been taken, as ye will, no doubt, descry, to leave ye no room for saying



ing any thing of this performance, but what is civil, however averſe ye be in general from ſuch a candid proceeding to a brother, or rather a fellow-writer.

Take notice, we are beforehand with ye, in-regard to your uſual, as well as parricide and unnatural practice of aſſaulting others, thro' the gored midriff of bleeding *Grubſtreet*, viz. "Such low and ſcurrilous traſh; ſuch vile ſcribbling, could come from no other place. What horrid ſtuff! abominable! below criticiſm! &c." We therefore adviſe ye, pen-brandiſhing paper-ſtainers, to ſhew ſome eſcapes of decency, ſome tincture of politeneſs and good-breeding, on this occaſion; for whoever proves a tranſgreſſor, ſhall be dealt with condignly, and ſummoned by name to attend at our next court day, or to write more accurately, our next literary convocation.

THE

# THE TRIAL, &c.

## SECTION I.

1. *An introductory sketch of Grubstreet.*
2. *The spirit of her sons.* And 3. *The cause of the present Trial.*

**G**RUB-STREET is the great nurse of modern English genius through every department of arts and sciences, and of almost equally universal fame with either of our universities, by having produced as formidable a number of claimants to literary merit as they can boast; and who, like theirs too, have not always proved of successful pretensions. This too hereditary failure contributes to keep a sufficient Association faithful in the service: because it is most commonly the case, when fortune smiles favourably upon the production

B

tions

tions of some of her progeny, that black ingratitude spurs them from that very instant to become apostates from their filial allegiance, and to renounce our paths of multifarious erudition; nay, even to disclaim the once endearing title of brotherhood with any of us. When they chance to descry one of our gymnastic members walking in the streets, meditative, as usual, about the necessary contingents of the day, they sidle off from him with an escaping eye, as if he had been absolutely unseen by them. Proud varlets, who, to their having herded with us, owe their glory, and unexpectedly clambering up to fortune.

Their base desertion from Mother *Grub* and her family's cause, is of a like ungrateful complexion with that of the Renegado *Chat-em's*, from being one of the people, and persevering staunch in their interest, because to them alone he oweth his elevation from a once very low sphere in life to the now very pinnacle of power and honour.

This *novus homo*, this mandarin of yesterday, who hath succeeded by no other merit but that of unabating arrogance and flatulent verbosity, is reported by such of our fraternity as were mean enough to make any application to him, to have treated the so applying graduate with chilling indifference; and even to have let drop some very reflecting terms on the collective body of Grubbeans,



Grubbeans; which, by the sacred energy of *magna charta*, shall now be retaliated, principal and interest. For, as the much admired by us all, his great rival orator STRAP, of the Hay-Market, says, "*manibus totibus, totibus manibus* will we oppose him." Since down he is in the public esteem, down we are resolv'd to keep him, in order to deter, through all succeeding time, each vain pretender to patriotism from deceiving the confidence of a whole people, or speaking irreverently of so respectable a corps as our duly qualified members form; and that too in not much more cleanly or polite terms than he has been wont to throw out against the illustriously created body of which he has now wriggled himself to be a compeer: And, ye Gods, how worthy! The new coxcomical lord Chalkstone, who not many years since advertised all his coach-horses, yea, to the number of seven, for public sale, now drives about in a gay and flaunting equipage, with four brilliant cane-bearing valets behind. Which proves the *propriety* of his having been so often compared to Cato of Utica! who would receive no favours from Cæsar. How light and how trifling a head must that be, which could (on being count-ified) write menacing mandates of indignation and chastisement to all dependants who should not immediately give his children, and upon all occasions, the mere titles of courtesy

that all persons in such a situation of life are honoured with, through a kind of complimentary prescription.

## SECTION II.

*The meeting of the LITERATI to carry on the trial, with an alarming incident, that threw the erudite assembly into a confusion like to break up the court, and effectuate a dismissal of the cause.*

THE famous rendezvous, through ages down, for the *Grubbean* collegiates to meet, was at the sign of the ragged Pegasus, over against that of the blasted Parnassus. Their convention-room was none of the best lighted by day, it affording but widely distant and narrowly bored avenues to the solar beams; whose just representation they kept up in their nocturnal meetings, by *Tallot-ing* here and there, in a most sagacious and frugal manner, a few rush-lights, that but shily twinkled to each other in remote modesty, and never betrayed the least affectation of becoming effulgent; lest the poring eyes of any of the ingenious constituents might be offended by the brisk flashing of unaccustomed lustre.

Their fire, when a freezing urgency requireth any, is so contrived as to burn dim,  
in

in order to prove to all over-nice critics the probability of *Milton's* controverted expression, *darkness visible*; than which nothing is more friendly to two articles, 1st, the solemn bathos, or undisturbed profundity of thinking; and 2dly, to concealing the indifferent furniture of the grave society's Pandemonium: where, in point of eating and drinking, as little voluptuary excess hath been committed as in a certain great and now uncelebrated kitchen, not a mile distant from Rosamond's pond.

The crevices of the academic wall are not conspicuous, through a scarcity of the light admitted; and moreover, they are deeply obscur'd by the smoke of time, as well as with that of tobacco: for which, as an auxiliary, and always ready damper of the keen twitchings of appetite, the Grub-beans have an inherent fondness. The judicial table they sit at, is not, properly speaking, *one*, because it is the tacked together result of the fragments of many planks and old boards; a repairing practice continued from time immemorial.

In a great leathern chair, fractured in many places, as an undeniable proof of its antiquity, and ornamentally studded over with several rows of *brass-heads* affixed to old iron nails, emblematic of the society's unembarrassed countenances and unfeeling hearts, enthroned sits the *Arifarchus* of the day,



day, as soon as declared duly elected by his brother-members, in order to proceed on some grand enquiry, in which the interest of Grub-street, and her zealous partizans, may in any shape be concerned. The other assessors are placed, according to their allowed precedency of merit, on two forms stretching along each side of the table, from which longitudinal seats, (on account of the frequent dilacerations that had been formerly caused in the community's breeches and stockings) all the nails were drawn out by command of the wardrobe committee; and for the future preserving of the property of individuals, they were made to hold together with wooden pegs. What thrift! What œconomy! What saving! Neither industrious Holland, nor the scanty isle of Bute, can produce more amazing instances of parsimony.

For the safety of the president of the day's netherlands, there is a kind of substitutive cushion, in the form of a decayed wig-box, containing all the records and ingenious performances that are most unexceptionably admired by the majority of such unparalleled critics.

At the other end of the table, and full in view of the great chair, are a few stools, in aspiring imitation of the *tabourets* employed at the French court. On these are permitted to squat all candidate visitors during their

their state of probation; but when pronounced worthy of being received, their next promotion is a licence to sit on one of the forms.

On the proposed day for *Chat-em's* trial, when, as *OVID* directs for a model to be followed on all occasions of public haranguing,

CONSEDERE, DUCES, ET VULGI STANTE  
CORONA,

“ The chiefs were seated, and their attendant *Grublings* stood behind backs all agog for the event.” Just as the cause was going to be opened, one of the judicial assessors very sensibly remarked, that there were two of the candidate-stools placed near to the farther end of the table from the president, vacant; and that he was desirous of knowing for what hopeful genii the honour of occupying them was intended.

No sooner had a question so a-propos been started, than it was answered most politely in the affirmative by a brother assessor. Those two vacant stools are intended for the two extraordinary and rival phenomena that have frequently of late made a skirmishing appearance in the news-papers, to the jealous alarming of our own manufacturers, and the repeated astonishment of most readers.

From these gentle sketches, none here present,

present, who at that time could afford the daily expence of a coffee-house to read the news-papers, but will instantly call to mind and declare, "I take you, I know the persons whom you mean; they follow each other as close in literary merit as the initial letters of their surnames do in the alphabet C. and D." Yet it cannot be said (according to the Grubstreet accurate manner of criticising) that they were absolutely on a level, because while the one inhaled a sublime and more purified air on Hampstead-heath, the other gulped down the thick and grosser atmosphere of St. Martin's lane. They have both long solicited for a permission of candidature, and for their admission-piece, one of them, D, is to read an apologetic defence of *Chat-em's* conduct; and the other, C, a poignant invective against it. About this very hour (the clock luckily strikes, I need not make an unnecessary question to any of ye gentlemen to look at your watches) they said they would punctually attend.

Upon an unusual noise being made at the door, and rather the forerunner of imperious demands, or tenacious grappling, the president started from his great chair, like Macbeth on seeing Banquo's ghost; and the assistants from their forms, each meditating an escape. However, the general resolution was, that whoever, like CHAT-EM, stood least in public credit, should act as a scout



scout on the occasion; which task was undertaken by the member who had announced the appearance of two strangers: For he was luckily emancipated from all fears of detention or fast holding, thro' an handsome legacy, which had been left him by his aunt, a Wapping landlady, lately deceased.

He went as desired, and on his return, quieted their alarms, by assuring the president and company, that those who knocked so terrifyingly at the door, from their not having been acquainted with the usage of the place, were persons free from any hostile disposition towards that great seminary of human knowledge; that on the contrary, before they were called to the bar, (for barristers they are) they had often contributed, by anonymous pamphlets and fugitive essays, to encrease the literary treasures of *Grubstreet*; that their business of personal attendance there was pursuant to the requests of their respective employers, Messieurs C. and D. who, they confess, are making a great progress towards their improvement in style, but without having attained the judicious knack of knowing how and where to stop, tho' to the neglect of commerce; for which reason it would be impossible for them to read with propriety before so august a tribunal; therefore this being the day appointed for *Chat-em's* trial, they have been both feed, each as a *locum*

*tenens* for C. or D. to plead conformably to their clients sentiments relating to the arraigned extraordinary personage. Now, Mr. president, and ye gentlemen of the court, is it your gracious will and pleasure, that these two law-substitutes for C. and D. be admitted to enter, and be allowed the liberty of speaking on this great occurrence?

To this motion the president replied with becoming humanity, "*Grubstreet* has been ever famous for receiving with a parental fondness all strayed children, that at any time should pay a retrospectively dutiful visit. He also most wisely observed, that, besides these two, there are many more originally belonging to her, that now skulk from any friendly intercourse with us, under black gowns and large periwigs, in the courts of Westminster; serjeant D, counsellor R, &c. &c. &c.—not to mention some of the judges, who are as totally neglectful of us as if they were bishops. How many of the latter might we claim!

Orders being given, the rusty bolts and hinges creaked an opening of admittance. It happened, as the reader will see anon, that the business of the day turned out uncommonly clever. The several speeches, both in point of force and elegance, surpassed any thing of the kind read for a century past at the French or other academies.

## SECTION III.

*The reception of the counsellors Rufus and Bardus: The president's spirited oration to them.*

Several phrases of politeness being bandied about, and a due reciprocation of bows and smiles, with looks mutually satisfied, &c. the admitted barristers were placed on the stools designed for those whom they represented, and the president thus addressed them:

GENTLEMEN,

“ Since you are employed in *Chat-em's* trial, it will not be amiss to revive in your minds a proper *idea* of the celebrated body you are now before; which, through your having been long weaned from any commerce therewith, and by hearing it so often vilified in the most depreciating language, by some of your law-brawlers, whose merit is more in their lungs than their brains, may be sunk, and appear but of little consequence in your now alienated and sophisticate opinions.

“ But, gentlemen, since it has fallen to my lot, however inadequate, to display and blazon forth the merits of *Grubstreet*, and her affiliated adherents, I will summon up



all that is *Grubbean* in me to support the dignity of my office, and with an energy suitable to the cause, in order, that when returned among those with whom ye now herd, and are hence become necessarily dull, to earn a livelihood honestly, if ye can, but if not to earn one; ye may correct their vulgar errors, and your own.

“The spirit and actuating motto of our corps is contained in a few significant words; “Let those who fear not law, fear us.” Yea, from the minister of state, down to a parish-beadle or constable of the night; as well as from the largest wigs of Westminster-hall, down to the pettifogging short-bobs of the Old Bailey.

“But by what right do the sons of *Grubstreet* arrogate to themselves this privilege, may be asked by our opponents? By one unknown to common mortals; a noble disregard for all possessions in this World, or debasing engagements that shackle the human understanding, prevent its viewing objects in a proper light, and warp it consequently to the entertaining and uttering of false judgments, to which all the mistakes in thinking and acting amongst fallen mankind are to be attributed.

“Our noble soaring to spirituality arises from a not frequent incumbrance of flesh, which makes us to delight in the superior regions of habitable mansions, thence to enjoy

enjoy a nearer view of our kindred stars ; and for that exalted situation the sons of *Grub*, by your stigmatizing companions, are affrontfully misrepresented under the ignominious appellation of *Garretteers*. Is it because we are unpropertied, that they dare to abuse us in so atrocious a manner ? But inform their ignorance, that in all ages, and in all countries, the missionaries of truth, whether literary, religious, or political, were men who, like the *Grubbean* race, indulged a noble contempt for earthly possessions, all which are so many clogs that keep down an aspiring imagination :

“ Another insulting expression often roared out in your courts (*called*) of law, against our fraternity, is that of hackney-writers, who, for pay, will whiten or blacken a character, will scribble on either side of a question.—Now, granting the fact true as to us, pray may we not, with equal justice, retort on ye not over-conscientious, but very grave orators, in debating law-points, the title of *hackney-speakers*. Do ye not take fees on any side of a question, to blacken and vilify characters ? Do ye not, by juggling arts, often strip the rightful claimants, to set them and their families adrift in poverty ? Is it never customary with ye to take fees on both sides ? To that indeed may be answered, Have not authors been known

known to write a pamphlet on one side, and an answer for the other?

“There is, however, this great difference between *hackney-writers* and *hackney-speakers*; the latter receive commonly great pay for little service, and wretched dialogue interlarded with a *this* here, or a *that* there, and the gelt monosyllable *Lud*, my *Lud*, your *Ludskip*.—*Hackney-writers* must understand their subject, know their language, write accurately, at least according to grammar, or no employment. How many of ye who receive thousands *per annum*, as well as *Chat-em*, whose speaking, if written, would not bring half a guinea a sheet? Thus, as in most other departments of life, the least deserving are the best rewarded. But the *Grubbeans* have a perennial source of satisfaction within themselves; because, by judging of all ranks *en dernier resort*, those they cannot clamber up to, they may, when they please, pull down to themselves, at least in idea, by the ministring energy of a presumptive imagination.

“I shall not expatiate any more for the present on a topic so interesting to us all, because I read, on the countenances of our learned and ingenious visitors, an anxious desire of communicating to our attention what they have to say for and against the impleaded *Chat-em*. Wherefore, my worthy and collegiate brethren, with your approbation,



approbation, I opine for their proceeding without loss of time." The question being put, a general assent was obtained.

#### S E C T I O N IV.

*Counsellor Rufus' apologetic plea in behalf of Chat-em's original sin.*

**I**T being settled (after some debate) who should begin, by a majority of votes, through the eagerness of curiosity to know what defence could be offered for *Chat-em*; the smoothly argumentative and gently insinuating Rufus arose, threw back a too forward tie of his wig, thrice hemmed, stroaked his band, and thus set off.

"Mr. president, and ye respectable constituents of this not less celebrated than erudite assembly, I am penetrated with the most lively sense of gratitude for the favour of a præ-audience, with which you have been pleased to honour me on so brilliant an occasion.

"Perhaps, through influence of the general clamour raised, and various newspaper essays, pamphlets, &c. which the press hath vomited of late against our party, ye may be somewhat prejudiced, or at least not favourably inclined to that side; wherefore my first endeavour must be (an arduous one

one indeed) to defeat all the seeds of latent antipathy, and win ye over, by degrees, to a more indulgent opinion of the much inveighed against orator, patriot, author, and Briton, our English Cicero, whose defence I am here to plead.

“ The burden of each charge, written or oral, that are now echoed through every part of this unwieldy metropolis, and dominions of Great Britain, is, *inconstancy of principle*.—But if I can prove, that, to act agreeably thereto, is true protestant, whiggish patriotism; and that to proceed otherwise would be erroneous, popish, arbitrary, nay, Jacobitish; it is to be hoped, that all rational members of this academic society will rescue their understandings from most artful impositions, and return to a sober use of their intellectual faculty. By so doing, they will behold this great and vilified man in another, a far more amiable point of light, than that in which he now is most ungratefully exhibited.

“ I perceive, gentlemen, a stare of diffidence and doubt diffused over all your features at the doctrine I advance; which, however paradoxical it may seem at the first set-off, I trust, through the continued favour of your polite indulgence and patient hearing, to make conspicuously manifest, even to the meanest capacity present; if any such human defect as a mean capacity was ever admitted within these literary precincts.

Method,

“Method, ye all know, is the very test of art, and the critical touch-stone, by which the ingenious productions of the mind, whether spoken or written, are to be ultimately judged. Therefore, to be the more worthy of your learned attention, I have, I may without vanity say, made choice of the most eligible method to enforce the rectitude of our sentiments; and that is deduced also from a most sublime and striking source, the glorious *smile* ye are well acquainted with. Man, the micro-cosm, is a just resemblance of the *macrosm*, the world of nature in all its departments. [Now can the former, with any propriety, be said to resemble the latter, if not actuated in a like manner? And if it stand not indebted for its existence, continuance, and gloriously flourishing, to the same *principle*, that of *inconstancy*, as the former does, how can there be any similarity, parallelarity, or whatever other *-arity* ye may be pleased to make use of?

“Be not startled, gentlemen, at the novelty of my thesis; which, to evincingly illustrate, I now come to close quarters with ye. Is it not through the revolutionary influence of the never-fixing *principle of inconstancy*, that the celestial bodies owe their movements? Does not the earth, by restlessly tumbling round her annual course, the same part now high, now low, now here, now there, make the seasons pursue

D

and



and kick each other about? Why then, pray, *that*, which is allowed to be the vital excellence of nature in her most extensive systems, should it be a vice in her contracted ones?—Absurd to think; affrontful to the majesty of common sense.

“ The rotatory seasons impress successively their powerful influence on the human fabric, which is inevitably varied by each. For what man is the same in summer that he is in winter, or in autumn what he was in spring? And that the changes caused in the body produce alterations in the mind, can be disputed only by unlettered wretches.

“ How elegantly has *Horace* delineated, in his excellent epistle to the *Pisos*, on dramatic poetry, the diversity of our affections in the different periods of, and various situations of life; according to which tenets, it is not at all surprising, that the same object should be loved by a man at one period of time, as in such a year, season, month, or week, and hated in another; or the reverse. [That being the case, how groundless are all invectives against *Chat-em*, for having been so declared an enemy against continental measures and Hanover at one time, and his becoming so lavishly enamoured of them at another; and the more so, when we calmly consider the source from which our affections, passions, inclinations,

clinations, are said to arise; and that source, gentlemen, is the heart.

“But should ye reply, “What is the heart?” which indeed is a question---my answer would be, The heart is the internal vivifying fount of life; and like to the sea, of which it is an emblem in abstract, most liable to vicissitudes, storms and tempests; according to whose more or less influential intensity, man acts more or less uniformly. The chief blowers-up of all such storms being two, as we read in the first *Æneid*, *Æolus* analagous to *Interest*, who was incited thereto by *Juno*, emblematic of *Fancy* in allusion to her peacock's tails, so beautifully decorated with a variety of striking colours, as to be a feast for the gayest imagination. Thus, while *Fancy* impels *Interest* to stimulate the heart, how can it be expected that any person so actuated should enjoy a quiescent, uniform tenor of life, or sentiments, &c. and pursue an unvarying, monotonous, and regular conduct. But it is now time to prove what is above asserted, that from *inconstancy of principle* is derived true protestant, whiggish patriotism.

“Had the kingdom in general continued constant in a principle of allegiance to that right-ful king, Charles the first, Britain would have never known those liberty-hatching days, and extraordinary series of

surprising events, which gave rise to the commonwealth, and the protectorship of *Oliver Cromwell*, so much dreaded by the potentates of Europe.

“ Had likewise the kingdom in general continued constant in principles of allegiance to the restored royal house of Stuart, to whom they had made a volt about from republicanism, in order to keep up the national spirit, our predecessors would have never known the manifold advantages attendant on, and that have flowed ever since from the glorious revolution.

“ If at these two cited memorable periods popery had prevailed in England, what must have been the consequence? Why, this; that as, on one hand, through the erroneous principles of constancy, in attachment to crowned heads, the daring genius of Cromwell could not have been able to effectuate a commonwealth; so on the other, through a blind zeal for divine, indefeasible and hereditary right, no revolution under the heroic auspices of king William would have found a place in the British annals.

“ Answer me, gentlemen, does it now favour of justice or equity to censure in *Chat-em* that actuating principle to which the nation is indebted for so many blessings? But to come to an instance more familiar to most of my hearers, in the person of a fellow-citizen,



tizen, whose contradictory performances afford as much room for conversation and debate as those of *Chat-em*. The individual I mean is a man of very public spirit, and no doubt in close connection and intimate friendship with many here present. The illustrious wight I have in my mind's eye, is Mr. *Charles Say*, residing in the vicinage of Newgate. How could his paper, or indeed any other, have been able to flourish, or even subsist so long, without the following day's contradicting what had been advanced in the preceding? As for example, "The assertion in our paper of yesterday, declaring that *Chat-em* hath often protested in the most solemn terms, that he never would accept of a title for himself, in order that his talents might be always devoted to the service of the public, to whose favours alone he stands indebted for his exaltation in life---we are authorised to retract, as being groundless, and without any foundation in truth."

"And yet, gentlemen, let me tell ye, that this very *Charles Say*, to my certain knowledge, is an——Thereat, some of the graduates sitting at the table, and several of the callow grubblings standing behind-back, alarmed, lest advocate *Rufus* (whose sliding rhetoric had made impression on many) should labour to depreciate their paymaster, the public-spirited editor of the *Gazetteer*, began

began to hawk, cough, sneeze, spit, scrape with their feet, and practise several other acts of interruption and contempt, to break the thread of his discourse, to dash him, and finally, prevent his proceeding any farther; which disrespectful and indelicate conduct produced the wish'd-for effect: For counsellor *Rufus*, as every sensible man in his place would have done, finding it must prove to no purpose to attempt pursuing the subject any longer; and having moreover thrown out the strongest arguments he had in behalf of *Chat-em*; there remaining no other matter to be uttered by him but a parading flowery peroration; he made to the obstreperous auditory a circular bow of indifference, accompanied with a mixed smile of pity and disdain: then sat down, thoroughly pleased with what he had pronounced, as was legible in his countenance; whose glowing he gently fanned with a milk-white handkerchief.

## SECTION V.

*The president's remonstrative check to the Grubbeans, on account of their bad behaviour.*

SEveral nods from the president, that *Rufus* might resume, being politely declined by him, thus broke out incensed authority from the chair: "Gentlemen, the rudeness you have let escape is a conduct so gross, as would be censured by the society of Newgate-street, and severely stigmatized even by that of Butcher-row. Immortal powers! in what depraved times do we live! That professors of literature and science, in every department, should be so far forgetful of themselves, as to unlace their reputations in this mob-like and tumultuous manner. By what singular, and to me unknown crime, have I demerited the ignominy of filling our presidential chair on the shameful day when *Grubbeans* behave in so indecent, so unpollished a manner! Such a deviation from all the rules of good breeding is to be seen or heard of no where, but among the chapel-men of the first Christian martyrs. The frequent attendance of several here about that place and Purlieus, in hopes of prey, I see hath infected them. That it should come to this, O the pity of it!

Among



Among the *Chapel-men*, upon any young orator's first speaking to a subject disagreeable to their sense, it is a common and notorious practice to hawk, cough, sneeze, &c. the only way that many of them can practise to oppose or defeat an argument. If the so baited hath resolution and steadiness enough to go through, when he attempts a second time, they listen with more attention; and at the conclusion of a third undaunted effort, they cry to each other, Nobly spoken, damn me---clever--bravo--well moved--The fellow will do!--He'll make his way--Our chief waggoner must fix his eye upon him--He may prove a leading horse in the team. I will go and pay him my congratulatory compliments.

---

## SECTION VI.

*Counsellor Bardus' vehement oration against Chat-em.*

**T**HE president's remonstrance in the preceding section, (tagged with this very useful remark, that when people are not privileged to be rude to each other in popular assemblies, it happens, on the breaking up of such meetings, that offensive speakers are liable to retorts not the most

most courteous from those to whom their tongues had proved affrontful) operated so powerfully, that silence and good manners ensued. Then the signal was given to counsellor *Bardus*, see'd on the opposite side, to exonerate his mind of the several charges he had prepared against *Chat-em*.

*BARDUS*' manner and deportment, as an orator, was quite different from that of *Rufus*; the latter having more of the insinuating flow for which *Ulysses* had been famous; and the former more of the irascible elocution of *AJAX*. Wherefore he thus abruptly began, in rough accents; the curls of his wig threatfally nodding, in complaisance to the wrinkly frowning of his forehead: both admirably combined to spread terror all around.

“With what patience, Mr. president; I say, with what patience have your ears, my ears, and every body's ears in this judicial conclave, been abused by the most fallacious sophistry that ever had been uttered before gentlemen and scholars! Has not the venerable system of nature, and through it, its author, been traduced in a most infamous manner, to screen, apologize for, and palliate the vile tergiversations of a fallen mortal, whose several acts of criminality I shall blazon forth, when I have shewed, in that light of ridicule which it deserves, the fraudulent way

of reasoning which *Rufus* hath employed ; and, I confess, not without some appearance of art, some shew of cleverness.

“ But such cobweb-threads (only fit to catch the light and insignificant flies of intellectuality, whose faculties enable them no further than to flit over the surface of reason, too solid for their tenuity to penetrate into her contents), will anon be beaten down and annihilated by the Herculean mass of arguments, with which I mean to beleaguer them.

“ The leading fallacy, and which nearly borders upon impiety, is the finessing manner whereby it is attempted to defend *Chattem's inconstancy of principle* ; for that shameful intent the motion of the heavenly bodies, forsooth, is pressed into the service. Such unphilosophic jargon might mislead smatterers, but it is a shame to utter to such learned judges as those before whom we have the honour to speak, and to whose tribunal of intelligences I will make this flagrant, this impotent absurdity, appear to plenarily inherit the contempt it so richly deserves.

“ Had *Rufus* duly considered, how irreconcilable to common sense the allusion of the movement observed by heavenly bodies, is to the inconstancy of principle in apostatizing man, he could never have dealt out such unwarrantable notions. As  
for



for illustration-sake; "The celestial bodies that revolve round the sun, tho' they be in a continued motion, yet is it regulated, nor do they ever vary in their course, as keen-sighted astronomers can prove; for if they should, then indeed might they be accused of inconstancy." This hint, therefore, to so ingenious an audience as the present, must suffice to overturn the fine imaginary structure of *Rufus*; it being now necessary to proceed to the quadruple charge against *Chat-em*, as an *orator*, a patriot, an author, and a Briton; which shall be done with as much brevity as possible.

"In point of oratory, he has been ever puerile or turgid; and very often ridiculous, if his hearers could have summoned up courage enough to laugh at him. 1. An instance of the puerile: Once upon a time he said, in regard to trade, "That commerce was like to the sensitive plant, and "circulating notes to its spreading leaves; "that whenever they were closely approached to, or, in the vulgar phrase, enforced on; then they, recoiling, shrunk in upon, to the destruction of, the parent "stalk." But he forgot, that whenever the too nearly approaching body is withdrawn from the sensitive plant, she expands her leaves anew, and flourisheth again with unfulfilled lustre; nay, looks as if she had not been actuated on by any impressive

power. But alas, when the weak part of a commercial agent is once discovered, and made known to the public, he scarcely ever recovers to his former credit and estimation. *Chat-em's* friends may throw in here the Latin adage, *Omnis comparatio claudicat*: Every comparison halts. 2. An instance of the *turgid*. When it was some years ago debated, in a club to which *Chat-em* belonged, but has shamefully run away from, whether there were any such beings as Jacobites in England? The negative was asserted by many, but in a more especial manner by R--b--t N-g--t, Esq; of a neighbouring kingdom; and by Mr. M--r--y, of North Britain, justly celebrated for his eloquence. Whereupon the bully-speaker arose, and thus harangued in a gross, turgid, but neither urbane, nor attic manner. "I am amaz'd to hear, that any members of our club can harbour a doubt, and contumaciously dare to assert, that there are no Jacobites in England. My recital of a late trip I made into the country, will establish the contrary. I took in my way a city famous for its seminaries of learning; and that ye may not mistake which of our two universities I allude to, Oxford is the place. As I was looking from a window of the inn I dined at, I perceived a crowd in the street. The curiosity, that is natural to man, instigated me to proceed thither,

thither, in order to know the motive of such numbers being congregated there. When I had penetrated into the midst of them, to my no small astonishment, I perceived them all looking, with eyes of zeal and admiration, on the picture of a young adventurer, whose late transactions alarmed three kingdoms. From these premises, gentlemen, I declare, that the streets of Oxford are paved with *Jacobites*. To assert the contrary, I was not born in the Highlands, (with a sneering look at M-r-y, nor bred at St. Omer's, (with a nod of insolence to N-g--nt.)

"It is, after all, a happiness that the streets of London are not paved with *Jacobites*, for a damn'd bad pavement they would make, much worse than Scotch stones. Yet this unnatural paviour-figuring is plagiarised from the common missionary sermons of mendicant friars in popish countries. *Vos tetes, miserables Pecbeurs feront le pavé de l'enfer, pour que votre maitre le diable se promene dessus.* "Wretched sinners! your heads will make the pavement of hell, for your master, the devil, to walk upon." However, a pavement of heads presents better imagery, and more applicable than supinely laid bodies, belly-upward, which could afford but very quagmire walking for the devil, or any other. Yet that such was *Chat-em's* idea, may be gathered from his last



last eruptions in the club-room.—“When this law was made, Mr. f——r, I then was sick a-bed; but would to heaven, and how thankful should I be, to any man whose friendly hands might have laid me in the midst of this floor, upon my back.”—Mr. f——r, I say upon my back.

3. Instances of the ridiculous—“America conquered in Germany,” being a joke in every school-boy’s mouth—What think ye of the *heaven-born Clive*, who, upon enquiry, appears to have been born in, or not far from the odoriferous vale of *Thames-street*? By what Heracleian labours, or other ennobling acts, hath he obtained his apothecic celestification? Is it by the *swan-bapping* of Nabobs, and enriching himself by all the means and ways that occur’d? Was not Welsh MORGAN, the Buccaneer, as deserving to the full of heavenly origination, because he slaughtered with as much energy, and plundered with as much dignity, as any other adventurer could? How ridiculous was it in *Chat-em* to declare, he preferred his Jamaica friend’s aldermanick gown, and title, to the peerage, coronet, and robes of a duke!” but that was formerly; nay, he vouched for that alderman’s being consummate in politics, and a good physician too.

“I now come to the *second* article he is to be impeached on, to wit, Patriotism. What is

is a patriot? A man not actuated by selfish views, or hurried on by the impulse of headlong passions; but one that is calm, self-collected, systematic, and not whiffing in his views for the public. The true test of such a character is, to enquire how he behaves to his family and tradesmen; for if in a tyrannic manner to the former, and an insolent one to the latter, depend upon it, he would behave so to society in general, if not checked by his fears. Therefore every such delinquent is but a false pretender to the sacred denomination of patriot; and will, when he has obtained the completion of his desires, throw off all affected disguise, and, with an unembarrassed countenance, triumph in being a declared impostor.

“ In the third charge, to wit, of *authorship*, no man ever made, or makes a more contemptible figure, than *Chat-em*.—See his letter to a City-Friend on his *prochaine amie*’s being peer-ified and be-pension’d.—See likewise the late frequent vapid applications to the public for a suspension of their judgment, most of which were dictated, or directed by himself. *Chat-em*’s having not been able to attain to any excellence in writing, hath long made him hate all those who have.

“ If his imbecility in the third charge renders him contemptible; his renegado failure

failure in the fourth and last, to be now brought against him, to wit, *Britonism*, ought to render him odious to every worthy subject and virtuous lover of his country, viz. his dealing towards two classes of merit, the military and the literary subjects of England. The luxuriant remuneration of prince Ferdinand, for no essential service rendered to England, exceeds all that has been obtained for generals Waldegrave, Kingsley, Amherst, Sir William Johnson, Sir Edward Hawke, &c. As for literary merit, he was ever its enemy, on account of his insuperable deficiency of taste, and incapacity of shining that way. Let any of his adherents point out the meritorious performance he has patronized, or the man of letters or genius by him provided for. A most shocking instance of his ingratitude to one, will be enough to indicate his inbred enmity to all writers. When the author of the spirited letters to the people of England, who had contributed so much to the raising of *Chat-em's* fame, and the secession of the then ministry, was prosecuted, and perhaps as much for having extolled the former, as exposed the latter; *Chat-em* never interested himself about the sentence, but rather seemed hurt in mind, that he should be thought to owe any share of his popularity to the talents of another.

Yet



“ Yet this man of vanity and inconsistency, when applied to by a French itinerant scribbler, called *Champignon*, or some such name; received him not only with smiles of patronage, but also presented him with a considerable sum of money, on the previous promise of dedicating a work to him in French, that should prove *Chat-em* the greatest statesman that not only England, but Greece or Rome, had ever produced.

“ This unnatural wight, you see, gentlemen, could open his purse-strings widely, in order to be puffed in a French dedication, and foreign news-papers, although he can't be proved guilty of such an act of munificence to any petitioning fellow-subject of genius. The deaf ears which he has turned to the application of many here present, tho' he could be so generous to the slavish offspring of Garlick, and a papist too, must induce ye, gentlemen, as free-born subjects, Protestants and Antigallicans, not to harbour the least doubt of, but to strenuously join with me in defeating, infirming, invalidating, and effacing all *Chat-em's* claims to, 1. Oratory; 2. Patriotism; 3. Authorship; 4. Britonism. And seeing there are no hopes of his amending in Europe, let us conclude the business of this day, by drinking to him a speedy voyage to America, as a just recompence for his undeservings; after that all here assisting shall have regaled

F

themselves

themselves on a dinner by me ordered, at the sign of the Fallen Pyramid, in this neighbourhood, pursuant to the directions of my employer, who has sent thither a hamper of wine, the only method he ever had of getting acquainted with, or recommending himself to men of genius, and cultivated talents.

---

## SECTION VII.

### *The joyful Conclusion.*

**R**UFUS, well aware of what convincing energy the combined powers, *eating and drinking*, are towards the carrying any point of public litigation, or senatorial election, whether for the side of court or country, prudently flunk away betimes, in order to escape any offer of insult, which is commonly the fare of the party that chuses not to treat.

The president, who was not less agreeably surprized than any of the subalterns, at so opportune and seasonable an invitation, descended with more than usual dignity from the chair, tempering it at the same time with a smile of affability and approbation to counsellor BARDUS, on whose oration he poured the greatest encomiums; protesting it was in the true *Demosthenic* style, and  
had

had nothing of the weak-nerved round-about Ciceronian flow, which *Rufus* (gone off, he supposed, as vanquished, and thro' a sense of shame) so laboriously affected to imitate.

The praised orator, sincerely believing all the stomach-warped president had said, took him by the hand, and began the procession to the stated place of regaling. All the elder, as well as the junior collegiates, eagerly followed, with yearning bowels; and as they march'd, congratulating each other on so happy, so unexpected an event,

Strok'd their lank sides, or smack'd their  
wat'ring jaws;

Swore by the pow'rs, that *Bardus* won the  
cause:

And Grubstreet's lofty mansions rang with  
loud applause!

F I N I S.



had nothing of the weak-nerved round-  
 bout Ciceronian flow, which Kew (gene-  
 off, he supposed, as vapid, and thro'  
 a sense of shame) so laboriously affected to  
 imitate.

The praised orator, sincerely believing all  
 the Homeric-warped president had said,  
 took him by the hand, and began the pro-  
 ceedings to the effect of saying, All  
 the elder, as well as the junior colleges,  
 eagerly followed with yearning bows;  
 and as they marched, congratulating each  
 other on so happy, so unexpected an event.



Snuck their tank sides, or snuck their  
 waiting jaws  
 Swore by the power, that Britain won the  
 cable:  
 And Girdle's jolly manna's tang with  
 loud applause!

